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CONSTITUTION AND LAWS

Governing the

FOURTH DEGREE

1943



ADOPTED JANUARY, 1910

With Amendments to and Including

October 17, 1943

AEQ 9492

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SUPREME ASSEMBLY
OF THE FOURTH DEGREE

SUPREME MASTER

TIMOTHY P. GALVIN
717 Calumet Bldg., Hammond, Ind.

VICE-SUPREME MASTERS

Champlain Province - - - L. EMILE GROTHE
74 Holyrood Ave., Outremont, P. Q., Montreal

Cabot Province - - - THOMAS F. LOCKE
260 Main St., Biddeford, Me.

Calvert Province - - ALFRED A. McGARRAGHY
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De Soto Province - - - PATRICK E. BURKE
307 Camp St., New Orleans, La.

Marquette Province - - JEROME J. CROWLEY
100 W. Monroe St., Chicago (3), Ill.

De Smet Province - - - JOSEPH J. MEYERS
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Hennepin Province - - - JOHN J. DONOVAN
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Junipero Serra Province - J. L. D. PRUD'HOMME
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SUPREME SECRETARY

JOSEPH F. LAMB
New Haven, Conn.

CONSTITUTION OF THE FOURTH DEGREE

ARTICLE I

Board of Directors

Section 1. The supreme power and control over the Fourth Degree, including the making, amending and changing of all laws, rules and regulations, etc., concerning the same, is vested in the Supreme Board of Directors. The officers herein provided for shall be subject to the Supreme Knight and the Board of Directors.

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors hereby creates and establishes the Fourth Degree and provides ceremonial and form of government therefor, including officers thereof, all as the same has heretofore existed, hereby ratifying previous action of this Board and of the Officers of the Order and of the Fourth Degree, in relation to said degree. (Adopted October 17, 1910, by Board of Directors.)

ARTICLE II

Supreme Assembly

Section 1. A Board of Government for the Fourth Degree is hereby established. It shall be known as the Supreme Assembly of the Fourth Degree.

Section 2. Subject to the approval of the Supreme Board of Directors, the Supreme Assembly shall have the power to make, alter and repeal all laws, rules and regulations for the government, management, discipline and control of the Fourth Degree and of the supreme, district and local or general assemblies thereof. It shall also have power to prescribe, add to and change the ceremonial of the degree.

VOTED, By Board of Directors, that the revised ceremonial of the Fourth Degree as submitted by the Supreme Master be adopted as the ceremonial of the Fourth Degree. (Adopted October 8, 1922.)

VOTED, On recommendation of the Ceremonial Committee, that a new ceremonial entitled "Renewal of Obligations," be adopted in lieu of the existing ceremonial for the same purpose; that the new ceremonial be incorporated in the Fourth Degree Ceremonial for Opening and Closing Local and General Assembly Meetings and that it be conducted at the first meeting in January of each year by all local and general assemblies. (Adopted June 24, 1939, by Board of Directors.)

Section 3. The Supreme Assembly shall meet biennially in even numbered years at such time in the month of August or September and place as it shall designate. In case of the first meeting, or subsequent failure to designate, it may be convened by the Supreme Master, the Supreme Knight, or the Board of Directors. It shall give careful consideration to all matters concerning the welfare of the Fourth Degree and of the Order at large, and devise ways and means for carrying its proposals and recommendations into effect. The Board of Directors may, by resolution, authorize special meetings.

Board of Directors at Montreal, June 20, 1934, authorized omission of Supreme Assembly meeting for 1934 and until further ordered.

ARTICLE III

Supreme Officers

Section 1. The Supreme Assembly shall consist of a Supreme Master of the Fourth Degree, nine Vice-Supreme Masters of the Fourth Degree and the Supreme Secretary.

Section 2. The Supreme Master of the Fourth Degree shall be vested with all executive authority and shall preside at the meetings of the Supreme Assembly. He shall be charged with general supervision over all the officials and assemblies herein provided for. He shall be diligent in his efforts to promote and advance the interests of the Fourth Degree in all jurisdictions wherein the same is established. He shall be appointed by the Board of Directors for a term of four years, unless sooner removed for cause. He shall make detailed reports with such recommendations as to him seem proper to each meeting of the Supreme Assembly and to the Board of Directors, whenever required.

Section 3. The Supreme Secretary of the Knights of Columbus shall be the Supreme Secretary of the Supreme Assembly with like powers and duties.

Section 4. The Board of Directors shall appoint one Vice-Supreme Master of the Fourth Degree from each of the nine Provinces comprising the United States and Canada for a term of two years unless sooner removed

for cause, provided that the five Vice-Supreme Masters appointed by the Board of Directors for the terms commencing September 1, 1942, shall be appointed for terms of one year only, so that the terms of all Vice-Supreme Masters shall expire at the same time and on August 31, in the odd numbered years. Each Vice-Supreme Master shall have general supervision over the Masters and Assemblies and exemplifications in his Province, and shall audit, or cause to be audited, the books, accounts and statements of the Masters, and shall make detailed reports to the Supreme Master biennially on the first day of August in the even numbered years. The terms of office for Supreme Master, Vice-Supreme Masters and Masters shall commence on September 1.

NOTE. The information for "detailed report" to Supreme Master should be required by V. S. M. from Masters in his Province. See Sections 9 and 10, Article VIII, concerning Master's reports of degrees and finances, and Section 11, Article XI. A complete report on the date mentioned to the Supreme Master by each V. S. M., covering his Province, is necessary to enable the S. M. to make his biennial report to the Supreme Assembly and Board of Directors as contemplated by Section 2, Article III.

VOTED, By Supreme Assembly, that any member of the Supreme Assembly has the right at any time to make official visits, when he considers the same necessary for the best interests of the Fourth Degree, after previous submission of the matter to the Board of Directors or Supreme Knight, and the expense of such visitations shall be payable out of the Fourth Degree Fund, Supreme Assembly. (Adopted August 1, 1914.)

The power of the Supreme Master to make a "lawful order" within the purview of the ceremonials of the Order is limited to such orders as are necessary to the conduct and existence of the degree. (Opinion S. Adv., October 28, 1921.)

ARTICLE IV

Provinces and Provincial Assemblies

Section 1. The United States and Canada shall be divided by the Board of Directors into nine provinces. The Board shall designate a name for each province, as Marquette Province, De Soto Province, and the like. Each Vice-Supreme Master shall have the executive power and be the head of the Fourth Degree in his province, subject only to the Supreme Master, Supreme Knight and the Board of Directors.

The nine Provinces established by the Board of Directors are as follows: (1) CHAMPLAIN PROVINCE, comprising Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Quebec and Ontario; (2) CABOT PROVINCE, the New England States; (3) CALVERT PROVINCE, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia and Puerto Rico; (4) DE SOTO PROVINCE, Virginia, Carolinas, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Arkansas, Texas, Panama, Mexico and Cuba; (5) MARQUETTE PROVINCE, Illinois, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin; (6) DE SMET PROVINCE, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming and Oklahoma; (7) HENNEPIN PROVINCE, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and West Virginia; (8) JUNIPERO SERRA PROVINCE, Washington, Oregon, Montana, Idaho, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, California and Utah; and (9) SIMON FRASER PROVINCE, Alberta, British Columbia and Yukon, Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

VOTED, By Board of Directors, October 2, 1917, that the Republic of Mexico be created a Fourth Degree District (De Soto Province) and the Supreme Master to appoint a Master for that District.

VOTED, By Board of Directors, on recommendation of Supreme Assembly, that Puerto Rico be created a Fourth Degree District and attached to Calvert Province, and the Supreme Master appoint a Master for that District. (Adopted January 8, 1921.)

VOTED, That the Board approve the establishment of the Fourth Degree in the Republic of Cuba. (Adopted October 26, 1936, by Board of Directors.)

Section 2. Whenever the Supreme Knight, Supreme Board of Directors or Supreme Master shall deem the same advisable, necessary or expedient, there shall be a meeting of all Masters in any or all Provinces for the consideration of Fourth Degree matters; said meeting shall be known as a Provincial Assembly. No alternates shall be permitted. On receipt of notice from the Supreme Secretary under seal of the Order that such meeting has been declared advisable, necessary or expedient as above provided, the Vice-Supreme Master shall call the meeting, but not otherwise. The meeting shall be held on some day in the month of July next preceding the biennial meeting of the Supreme Assembly, the time and place to be designated by the Vice-Supreme Master. The expenses of said meeting (mileage and per diem as provided for members of the Supreme Council) shall be paid out of the Fourth Degree fund, Supreme Assembly. All recommendations adopted by said Provincial Assembly shall be transmitted to the Supreme Assembly through the Vice-Supreme Master.

See Section 1, Article VII, expenses, how paid.

ARTICLE V

District Assemblies

Section 1. Each province shall be divided by the Vice-Supreme Master thereof into as many districts as may be necessary from time to time, with the approval of the Board of Directors, and over each district a Master of the Fourth Degree shall preside. Masters shall be nominated by the District Assemblies, as hereinafter provided, and appointed by the Supreme Master for a term of two years, unless sooner removed for cause; upon written charge, the sufficiency of which shall be first determined by the Supreme Master, and if deemed sufficient by him, then a hearing shall take place, before the Supreme Board of Directors, or a Commissioner appointed by the Supreme Board or the Supreme Knight, upon notice to the accused and to the complainant. Provided, however, the Supreme Master may summarily remove a Master for neglect or failure to perform any act or duty imposed upon him by the Fourth Degree laws.

A Master of the Fourth Degree has no standing in the State Council. (Ruling by S. M., 1921.)

It is not within the contemplation of the law that a patriotic or similar name should be used to designate the names of District Assemblies. The District Assembly should be designated by the name of the Master's District, as, the District Assembly of Colorado, the District Assembly of Western Missouri, the District Assembly of Second New York District, etc. (Ruling by S. M.)

Section 2. District Assemblies shall be composed of the presiding officer of each Local or General Assembly and one delegate for each one hundred members or major fraction thereof of a Local or General Assembly. The District Assembly shall meet biennially on any day during the third week in May in the even numbered years and the Master of the Fourth Degree shall be the presiding officer. The meeting shall be called by the Master. A quorum in a District Assembly shall consist of at least one-third of the delegates constituting said District Assembly.

VOTED, That, in the opinion of the Supreme Assembly of the Fourth Degree, the word "delegate" in Section 2, Article V, shall be construed to mean a member in good standing in his own Council and in his Assembly. (Adopted July 29, 1910.)

VOTED, That, in the opinion of the Supreme Assembly of the

Fourth Degree, wherever the words "member" or "members" appear in the Constitution and Laws, the same shall be construed to mean only member or members in good standing in their respective Councils and Assemblies. (Adopted July 29, 1910.)

VOTED, That it is the decision of the Board of Directors that, under Section 2 of Article V, Fourth Degree Constitution and Laws, Local and General Assemblies have the right to elect alternates representing the F. N. and delegates to the District Assembly. (Adopted April 24, 1911, by Board of Directors.)

This section does not specifically point out who shall choose the delegates to the District Assembly, but the reasonable inference is that they should be chosen by the Local and General Assemblies, by ballot or otherwise, as their by-laws may provide. The contention that the F. N. has the power of appointment, in the absence of a by-law to that effect, is unsound. (Ruling by S. M.)

VOTED, That it be the sense of this Board that a District Assembly has no power to hold a special meeting without first having obtained the consent of the Supreme Master, upon cause shown. (Adopted January 15, 1912, by B. of D.)

VOTED, That in the opinion of the Supreme Assembly, under the provisions of Article V, Section 2, that the Master is a member of and has a vote in the District Assembly. (Adopted July 26, 1916, by Supreme Assembly.)

NOTE. See Section 10, Article VIII, requiring transcript of proceedings of District Assembly to be sent to certain officers by the Master.

See, also, "Decisions by Ceremonial Committee" under Section 10, Article XI.

VOTED, By Board of Directors, August 2, 1924, that District Assembly meetings held by Masters on a day other than fixed by the Fourth Degree Laws, or permitted by dispensation, are hereby declared illegal, and it is the sense of the Board that all actions, recommendations and proceedings of any meeting so held should be disregarded.

Section 3. The District Assembly shall guard the welfare of the Fourth Degree in the District and consider and act upon all matters of interest to the membership and consonant with the purposes of the Degree. It shall have power to make such by-laws as shall be necessary, provided they in no wise conflict with the laws of the Order or with any of the provisions hereof. The minutes of the proceedings shall be filed with the Master. At the meeting of the District Assembly next preceding the regular meeting of the Supreme Assembly, the District Assembly shall choose three names from the Fourth Degree membership of the District, which names shall be forwarded to the Supreme Master through the Vice-Supreme Master. One

of the persons so named shall be appointed Master of the Fourth Degree for the District, provided, whenever in the judgment of the Supreme Master, the Supreme Knight, or the Board of Directors, the good of the Order so requires, the names submitted shall be disregarded and another person appointed. The Master shall reside in his District, and in case of change of residence therefrom the Supreme Master shall declare the office vacant and appoint a successor from the membership in the District.

Where the District Assembly fails to meet at the time in this section designated or at any other time permitted by dispensation, or fails to choose the three names as herein directed, the Supreme Master shall be at liberty to appoint a Master from the Fourth Degree membership of the District.

In the event that one or more of the persons named by the District Assembly shall decline, the Supreme Master, Supreme Knight or Board of Directors may choose another name or names in lieu thereof.

VOTED, That former masters may attend district assembly meetings at their own expense with right of voice but not of vote. (Adopted October 22, 1938, by Board of Directors.)

VOTED, That it be the sense of the Board that if the Supreme Master sees fit to appoint a member of the Order who is not included among the three members recommended by the District Assembly, such action as he may take in the matter of such appointment shall have the approval of the Board. (Adopted by B. of D., Aug. 17, 1936.)

VOTED, That it is the sense of the Supreme Assembly, that the provisions of Section 3, Article V, requiring the District Assembly to choose three names from which shall be selected a Master, is not complied with when less than three names of separate individuals are submitted. (Adopted July 31, 1914.)

VOTED, That, in the opinion of the Supreme Assembly, the District Assembly has not the power to delegate to a Master or any one else the selection of three names to be proposed for Master, and that where a District Assembly has failed to comply with the provisions of the law regarding such selection, the Supreme Master, in his judgment, may disregard the lists submitted. (Adopted July 28, 1916, by Supreme Assembly.)

VOTED, By Board of Directors, construing Section 3, Article V, that whenever a vacancy occurs in the office of Master, the Supreme Master may fill the vacancy from the general Fourth Degree membership in the District. (Adopted August 1, 1920.)

VOTED, By Supreme Assembly, that successor of outgoing Master give inventory receipt to latter on form prepared by Supreme Secretary. (Adopted July 27, 1922.)

Section 4. Order of Business, District Assemblies.

1. Call to Order.
2. Appointment of Pilot, Inside Sentinel and Outer Sentinel.
3. Taking of Password.
4. Prayer.
5. Appointment of Committee on Credentials.
6. Appointment of Committee on Resolutions.
7. Report of Committee on Credentials.
8. Reading of Minutes.
9. Communications.
10. Report of Master.
11. Report of Committee on Resolutions.
12. Unfinished Business.
13. New Business.
14. Selection of three (3) names for Master. (Every second year.)
15. Selection of Master's audit committee.
16. Election of District Assembly officers.
17. Prayer.
18. Adjournment.

The District Assembly may elect such officers as may be provided for in its own by-laws, not inconsistent with these laws. (Ruling by S. M.)

Section 5. The Master shall have general supervisory control of all local and general assemblies in his district, subject to the Supreme Knight, Supreme Master and Vice-Supreme Master. All public affairs under the auspices of any assembly, in which the name of the Order is used or advertised, or at which non-members are present or invited, shall require the consent and approval of the Master.

ARTICLE VI

General and Local Assemblies

Section 1. In towns and cities having two or more Councils the Fourth Degree membership therein shall constitute a General Assembly. The Vice-Supreme Master may also create a General Assembly by combining the Fourth Degree members in nearby and adjacent towns when the good of the Order so requires, effective on filing notice with the Supreme Secretary. General Assemblies

shall be known by some patriotic name, to be approved by the Board of Directors. The offices of the General Assembly shall be the same as those of the Local Assembly, and shall be filled at the same time. The General Assembly shall have all the rights and powers of the Local Assemblies, including the right to admit to membership in the Fourth Degree. Local Assemblies, as such, shall not be permitted within the territory of a General Assembly, and all such Local Assemblies now existing are hereby abolished. Applications for membership in the Fourth Degree from members of Subordinate Councils located within the territory or jurisdiction of a General Assembly shall be made to the General Assembly and procedure thereon shall be as hereinafter provided. General Assemblies may, by by-laws, provide for the additional offices of Faithful Purser, whose duties shall be similar to those of Treasurer, and Faithful Scribe, whose duties shall be similar to those of Recorder in Subordinate Councils, and in the event of the creation of such offices by a General Assembly, the duties of the Faithful Comptroller shall be limited to duties similar to those performed by the Financial Secretary of Subordinate Councils.

VOTED, That, in the opinion of the Supreme Assembly of the Fourth Degree, the territorial limits of a General Assembly, pursuant to Article VI, Section 1, shall in no case exceed the territorial limits of any one Fourth Degree District. (Adopted July 29, 1910.)

VOTED, That, in the opinion of the Supreme Assembly of the Fourth Degree, whenever in the judgment of the Vice-Supreme Master the good of the Order requires, the word "towns" in the second sentence of Section 1, Article VI, may include places having more than one Council. (Adopted July 29, 1910.)

VOTED, That, in the opinion of the Supreme Assembly of the Fourth Degree, the word "cities" in the first sentence of Section 1, Article VI, shall be construed to mean boroughs or other similar subdivisions thereof, and whenever in the judgment of the Vice-Supreme Master the good of the Order requires, he may establish more than one General Assembly within the confines of such cities. (Adopted July 29, 1910.)

VOTED, That it is the sense of the Board of Directors that the same name be used by only one General Assembly. (Adopted July 3, 1911, by Board of Directors.)

A General Assembly may be named after a living person. (Adopted by B. of D., October 17, 1938, rescinding former action.)

In a city having two Councils, a General Assembly was formed, and afterwards the Councils consolidated; held, the General Assembly continued to exist as such, notwithstanding there was but one Council in the city. (Ruling by S. M.)

There is no authority of law for a General or Local Assembly to have representation in a Chapter organized under Section 242 of the laws and rules for Subordinate Councils. (Ruling by S. M., 1921.)

VOTED, By Supreme Assembly, that it is the sense of this body that there is no authority under the law for the formation of a Local Assembly within a General Assembly; but where the General Assembly is composed of Fourth Degree membership in more than one city or town, the Master may, with the approval of the Vice-Supreme Master, at any time permit the formation of a Local Assembly in one of such cities or towns by withdrawal of the Fourth Degree membership therein. (Adopted January 3, 1920.)

VOTED, That it is the sense of the Supreme Assembly that where a Council changes its location, so that it comes within the territorial limits of a different General Assembly, the Fourth Degree membership should be transferred to the new General Assembly. (Adopted January 3, 1920.)

Section 2. Whenever there are fifteen or more initiated members of the Fourth Degree in a Council outside the territory or jurisdiction of a General Assembly, the Master, on request of any member, shall call, or cause to be called, a meeting of all such members and shall nominate a temporary Chairman thereof. In case of his refusal or neglect to act promptly, any five Fourth Degree members of the Council may call said meeting. At least one week's notice of said meeting shall be given to all Fourth Degree members of the Council. The Fourth Degree members at such meeting shall organize by the selection of officers and shall thenceforth be known as a Local Assembly, under the name and number of the Council.

See "Decisions by Ceremonial Committee" under Section 10, Article XI.

A Local Assembly organized under the previous law with less than fifteen members continues as a lawful body, and all Fourth Degree applications must be passed upon by it. (Ruling by S. M.)

Section 3. Local and General Assemblies shall hold regular meetings once each month at such time and place as they shall determine. Special meetings for the consideration of matters of emergency or importance may be called on written or published notice by the Faithful Navigator, at his instance, or by the Faithful Captain on request of ten members, upon like notice.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES—VOTED, It is the sense of the Board that members of Assemblies should cooperate with Councils of which they are members, in carrying out programs formulated by the Board. (Adopted by B. of D., October 22, 1938.)

Section 4. Each Local and General Assembly may adopt such by-laws as it deems necessary, providing they do not conflict with the laws and rules of the Order, or with the Constitution, laws and rules for the government of the Fourth Degree.

A Fourth Degree member in good standing in his own Council, but who neglects or refuses to pay the annual dues of the Assembly in advance, as required by the by-laws, is not entitled to the current annual password of the Fourth Degree. (Ruling by S. M.)

VOTED, By Board of Directors, that any by-law making a member who holds office in any State or Subordinate Council or Fourth Degree Assembly ineligible to succeed himself is illegal and will not be approved. (Adopted October 6, 1913.)

NOTE. By-laws must be approved by Supreme Master. See Section 15, Article XI.

Section 5. The Master shall issue the call for and organize the General Assemblies herein authorized.

ARTICLE VII

Finances

Section 1. Each Master of the Fourth Degree shall remit to the Supreme Secretary four dollars within 30 days after initiation. This shall be paid over to the Supreme Treasurer, and shall be kept by him in a separate fund known as the Fourth Degree Fund. This fund shall be used to pay the expenses of the Supreme Assembly, and of the officers constituting the same, and the expenses of the meeting of the Provincial Assemblies (mileage and per diem), and for such other purposes as may be designated by the Supreme Assembly and approved by the Board of Directors. The expenses shall be paid by the Supreme Treasurer on orders issued by the Supreme Knight and Supreme Secretary in the same manner that other expenses are paid out of the General Fund of the Order. For attendance at Supreme Assembly meetings the members shall be paid mileage and per diem as in the case of members of the Board of Directors.

VOTED, By Board of Directors, January 7, 1923, that the fee payable to Supreme Secretary by Masters in Champlain and Simon Fraser Provinces shall hereafter be three dollars, because of the government duty on equipment.

NOTE. See Sections 9 and 10, Article VIII, requiring reports from Masters as to finances and degrees.

Section 2. Local and General Assemblies shall pay the

expenses of their representatives and delegates to the District Assembly. The Master's expenses for attending the District Assembly are payable out of the Degree Fund in his hands.

ARTICLE VIII

Membership

Section 1. (A) All candidates must be over twenty-one years of age and citizens of the respective countries in which they reside.

(B) They must be in good financial standing in their Council and in the Order.

(C) They must be in general good standing in their Council and in the Order for the full period specified in subdivision E hereof.

(D) They must have their practical Catholicity vouched for by their Chaplain, Pastor, or other Priest or spiritual director, and must present before initiation a certificate or certificates to this effect, and also certify that they have received Holy Communion within two weeks prior to the date of initiation in this Degree.

(E) They must have been initiated in the Third Degree at least two full years prior to the date of initiation in this Degree.

These qualifications are required of all candidates, except that a clergyman is dispensed from the provisions of subdivisions D and E above.

RESOLVED, That a declaration of intention to become a citizen of the United States commonly called "first papers," is insufficient proof of citizenship to entitle an applicant to the honors of the Fourth Degree. (Adopted April 12, 1909, by Board of Directors.)

The Ceremonial Committee, construing the vote of the Board of April 12, 1909, in reference to citizenship, holds, where the applicant has first papers, and has applied for and is legally entitled to his final papers, and is a man of good moral character, that it has power to grant dispensation permitting him to receive the Fourth Degree. (Adopted April 5, 1914.)

VOTED, That the resolution of the Board adopted April 12, 1909, concerning the admission to the Fourth Degree of members of the Order reinstated after suspension, be modified to read as follows: "Resolved, That any Third Degree member withdrawing from the

Order or expelled or suspended upon charges is not eligible to make application for the Fourth Degree until the expiration of two full years after his readmission to the Order by reinstatement or otherwise, and upon compliance with all other conditions specified in the rules." (Adopted April 1, 1912, by Board of Directors.)

Where a withdrawal card is taken out only as a step in the procedure to obtain readmission to the Order, under Paragraph 7, Section 217, Laws and Rules of Subordinate Councils, the Ceremonial Committee may grant dispensation from the two-year rule required by the resolution of the Board of Directors of April 1, 1912, declaring any Third Degree member withdrawing from the Order not eligible for the Fourth Degree until the expiration of two years after his readmission to the Order. (Decision by Ceremonial Committee.)

A Fourth Degree member who took a final withdrawal card from the Order and who was afterwards readmitted to the Order thereupon *ipso facto* regained his membership in the Fourth Degree without further action. (Ruling by S. M.) But, as to status in Assembly, see Section 4, Article XI.

See, also, "Decisions by Ceremonial Committee" under Section 10, Article XI.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP may be conferred upon "eminent Catholic personages" by the Board of Directors. (Adopted by Board of Directors, October 5, 1919.)

VOTED, That any Fourth Degree Assembly may make a Bishop of the Church an honorary member of such Assembly without payment of dues, fees or other charges. (Adopted by B. of D., January 13, 1940.)

VOTED, That it is the sense of the Board that provision for a Degree of Honor or Honorary Degree in Fourth Degree Assemblies is unnecessary in view of the laws concerning councils on that subject. (B. of D., January 13, 1940, affirming former action of August 16, 1936.)

Section 2. Prior to the organization of the Fourth Degree membership in any Council, the selection of members for the Fourth Degree, up to a total number not exceeding twenty (20), shall be made by a committee consisting of the delegates (not alternates) of the Council to the last State Council prior to the selection, together with the Chaplain of the Council. Where no State Council exists the Grand Knight, last Past Grand Knight and the Chaplain shall constitute the committee. If there be no Past Grand Knight the Deputy Grand Knight shall act. Where there is no chaplain the other members of the committee shall select a clergyman of the Council in good standing in the Third Degree, and if there be none, then the Chancellor shall act. In case of inability for any reason to complete this committee, or the refusal or neglect of any or all of its members to act or their unreasonable

refusal to agree or make selections the Vice-Supreme Master in his discretion, on being satisfied of the facts, may make such changes or additions to the committee as he deems best suited to meet the circumstances. The Grand Knight shall call the committee together and act as Chairman.

See, also, "Decisions by Ceremonial Committee" under Section 10 of Article XI.

Section 3. The committee above provided for should make their selections entirely in the best interests of the Order, selecting where a number are eligible those they deem best fitted by reason of good judgment, high moral character and known zeal and activity in the Order, to protect the membership of this Degree. In their selection the committee must be unanimous and so certify over all their signatures. The applications approved by them shall be sent, together with the initiation fees, to the Master of the District. In case applicants selected by the committee fail to qualify for any reason, the committee may fill their places at any time before the Assembly organization, but not after.

Section 4. Third Degree members desiring to join the Fourth Degree shall make application on the official form provided, conforming strictly with all its requirements and presenting the same, together with the initiation fee, to the Faithful Comptroller of the Local or General Assembly, who shall note the order in which the applications are received, either by numbering or by specifying the time. Applications can only be made to the Local Assembly of the applicant's Council or to his General Assembly, if one exists.

See Ruling S. M., under Section 9.

Section 5. The initiation fee shall be twenty-five dollars, or such larger sum, in exceptional or extraordinary cases, as may be fixed by the Master; subject, however, to the written approval of the Supreme Master. The initiation fee for clergymen shall be fifteen dollars in case they desire to dispense with baldric and sword and carrier, accepting only as equipment emblem and social baldric; otherwise, the fee shall be the same as for other applicants.

Local and General Assemblies shall fix dues not less than three dollars per year as shall be provided in their by-laws.

In the event of failure of a candidate for the Fourth Degree to appear at the exemplification, the Master of the Fourth Degree may declare forfeited a portion of the initiation fee sufficient to cover expenses incurred by reason of said candidate's application, not, however, to exceed the sum of \$10.00. The balance of the initiation fee shall be returned to the applicant unless, with his written consent, his application is held for a later exemplification. Upon the termination of the term of office of any Master, whether said term shall terminate by expiration thereof or for some other reason, the Master shall turn over to his successor all applications then on hand, together with all initiation fees then held by said Master to the credit of the applicants who have filed said applications.

VOTED, By Board of Directors, that Supreme Master may approve initiation fee exceeding twenty-five dollars in Champlain Province if conditions in his judgment require. (Adopted October 2, 1920.)

VOTED, In the case of failure of a candidate for the Fourth Degree to appear at the exemplification, the Master of the Fourth Degree may declare forfeited the whole or any part of the initiation fee. (Adopted April 24, 1911, by Board of Directors.)

NOTE. See ruling under Section 1, Article X, as to deposit of fees in bank.

In the absence of any positive rule or regulation, the dues of the Assembly should be reckoned from the first of January and the year as the calendar year. (Opinion by Sup. Adv.)

See, also, "Decisions by Ceremonial Committee" under Section 10, Article XI.

Section 6. All applications shall be read at a regular or special meeting of his Local or General Assembly and shall then be turned over to the Membership Committee of the Assembly, and, if approved by said Committee, subsequent action taken thereon shall be similar to that in Subordinate Councils upon application for membership. Immediately upon his election it shall be the duty of the Faithful Navigator to appoint a Membership Committee of five (and in General Assemblies he may appoint several such membership committees) and all applications for membership failing to receive the endorsement of four members

of the Committee shall be deemed rejected and the fees shall be returned to the applicant. Membership Committees shall serve for the term of one year or for such less period as shall be designated in the by-laws of the Assembly. The Faithful Admiral shall be ex-officio chairman of all Membership Committees, and approval or rejection of a candidate by the Membership Committee shall be evidenced by the certificate of the Faithful Admiral endorsed on the application. The Faithful Navigator may dissolve the Committee at any time and appoint another.

The requirement of Section 6, Article VIII, that all Fourth Degree applications receive the endorsement of the Membership Committee as above, is mandatory. The fact that two or more members of the committee withhold endorsement is sufficient to stop the further progress of the application. Neither the Supreme Master nor the Ceremonial Committee has power to dispense with this requirement. If the committee is unfaithful to its duties, or obligations, the remedy lies with the F. N. This Section empowers him to dissolve the committee at any time and appoint another. (Ruling by S. M.)

Section 7. Upon compliance with the above provisions, and not before, and no objection being made, the applicant shall be balloted for at a regular or special meeting of the Assembly, provided notice with names of the candidates to be balloted for be previously sent by mail to each member of the Assembly at least five days before such meeting. The Faithful Navigator and the Faithful Captain shall, in turn, inspect the ballot box, and the Faithful Navigator shall announce the result. If three or more black balls are cast, the applicant shall be declared rejected, otherwise elected. In case of a rejection by ballot of an applicant, a second ballot shall only be allowed in the same manner as provided for by the laws and rules governing Subordinate Councils. If more than one candidate is to be balloted for at a meeting, the Faithful Navigator may announce that the first ballot shall be a general ballot upon not exceeding ten candidates and that if not more than two black balls are cast upon such general ballot, no other ballot will be taken upon such group of candidates. If such announcement is made and not more than two black balls are cast upon such general ballot, all of the candidates in said group so balloted for shall be declared elected. If more than two black balls are cast upon said general ballot then an individual ballot shall be taken upon each of the candidates

in said group. If more than ten candidates are to be balloted for at one meeting, they shall be divided into groups of not more than ten each, and each group balloted upon as above provided. If any applicant rejected on ballot who is duly qualified and otherwise worthy shall complain to the Supreme Board of Directors that his rejection was brought about by unfair, unjust, unlawful or unworthy means or motives, the Board may inquire into the matter and take such action as it shall deem proper on notice to the Assembly.

The length of time that must elapse after an applicant is rejected on ballot by the Assembly before he can make a new application, is six months. (Ruling by S. M.)

See, also, "Decisions by Ceremonial Committee" under Section 10, Article XI.

See, also, ruling under Section 2, Article VI.

Section 8. At any time before initiation objections to a candidate may be presented to the Master of the District. The Master then, in his discretion, may forbid the initiation of the candidate until further notice and order an investigation either through the candidate's Assembly, or otherwise. Said candidate shall not be initiated until he receives the permission of the Master or of the Vice-Supreme Master of that province. The Assembly may, also, at any time before initiation, by a two-thirds vote, reconsider its action in electing a candidate.

Section 9. Immediately upon the election of an applicant by the Assembly, his application and initiation fee shall be forwarded to the Master of the District. After initiation, within thirty days, the Master shall return the applications of those initiated to the Supreme Secretary, certifying on the application to the fact of initiation, together with report setting forth in the fullest detail the names of applicants, Council of each, number initiated at the degree, and date and place of degree, and such like information, at the same time forwarding copy thereof to the Vice-Supreme Master. Masters of the Fourth Degree shall certify to the Master of the candidate's district and to the Faithful Navigators of Assemblies from which members have been initiated into the Fourth Degree the

names of such members, together with the date of initiation.

Within thirty days after each exemplification, the Master shall send a written notice thereof to the Financial Secretary of each council, a member or members of which received the Fourth Degree at such exemplification. Such notice to the Financial Secretary shall give the name of each candidate, who is a member of such Council, the date and place of the exemplification of the Fourth Degree and the name and address of the Master in charge of such Degree.

Whenever a member is added to the roll of any General or Local Assembly the Faithful Comptroller of such Assembly shall forthwith give written notice to the Financial Secretary of the Council to which such member belongs, of the fact that such member of the Order has been enrolled as a Fourth Degree member of the said General or Local Assembly.

Whenever a member is removed from the roll of any General or Local Assembly by suspension, withdrawal, transfer or otherwise, the Faithful Comptroller shall forthwith give written notice to the Financial Secretary of the Council to which such member belongs, of the fact that such member has been removed from the roll of such Assembly.

Where a candidate is initiated in a city or town other than the place of his Council or Assembly, whether in or out of his Master's District, he still continues a member of his Local or General Assembly, and the Assembly where the exemplification takes place has no right to place him on its membership roll or collect Assembly dues from him. If there be no organized Assembly, General or Local, in the jurisdiction of his home Council, he may be attached to some Assembly only by order of the Master under Section 16, Article XI. (Ruling by S. M.)

Section 10. It shall be the duty of the Master immediately after the meeting of the District Assembly to send a transcript of the proceedings to the Supreme Master, Vice-Supreme Master and Supreme Secretary. Masters shall on the first day of March and September of each year make a detailed financial report and statement on forms furnished by the Supreme Secretary, forwarding a copy thereof to the Supreme Master, Vice-Supreme Master and Supreme Secretary; said report shall be

approved and signed by an auditing committee of three members selected by the District Assembly at its last preceding regular meeting; provided, that where no District Assembly meeting has been held, said report shall be approved and signed by an auditing committee of three members selected by the Local or General Assembly of which the Master is a member. The books and accounts of Masters shall be subject to audit at any time by the Supreme Secretary upon order of the Supreme Master. It shall likewise be the duty of the Master on said first day of March and September each year to remit to the Supreme Secretary all Fourth Degree funds in his hands in excess of one thousand dollars for deposit in the Supreme Assembly Fourth Degree fund to be used for the general purposes of said fund. Provided, however, that whenever exceptional circumstances warrant an exception to this requirement, the Supreme Master is authorized to grant to any Master a dispensation which will permit him to retain in his hands an additional sum not to exceed in total, Two Thousand Dollars, for the ordinary and proper expenses of the Master. Failure of the Master to promptly comply with the provisions of this section shall subject him to removal from office by the Supreme Master.

ARTICLE IX

Assembly Officers

Section 1. Each Local and General Assembly shall elect a Faithful Navigator, a Faithful Captain, a Faithful Admiral, a Faithful Comptroller, a Faithful Pilot, and Faithful Inner and Outer Sentinels, to hold office for one year, or until their successors are elected and qualified, provided that General Assemblies may elect additional officers as hereinbefore provided. The Chair Officers shall annually appoint a priest to act as Faithful Friar or Chaplain, but such selection must be made in accordance with any rules established by the Bishop of the Diocese in which the Assembly is located. The Faithful Admiral shall be chosen from the Past Faithful Navigators of the Assembly, if any there be.

Charges against officers, see Section 17, Article XI.

The F. F. in Local and General Assemblies should be a clergyman. (Ruling by S. M.)

The words "Chair Officers" in this Section mean the four officers occupying the four stations of F. N., F. Capt., F. A., and F. P. (Ruling by S. M.)

Section 2. The Faithful Navigator shall act as presiding officer, with all the powers and duties incident to such office, occupying the station of the Grand Knight. In his absence, the Faithful Captain shall perform such duties and exercise such powers, and he shall occupy the station of the Deputy Grand Knight. The Faithful Admiral shall occupy the Chancellor's station, and shall preside in case of the absence of both preceding officers, and may have such other powers and perform other duties as the By-Laws may prescribe. The Faithful Pilot shall perform the duties incident to the office of Warden, occupying his station and taking up the password. The Faithful Comptroller shall act as Secretary and Treasurer of the Assembly. He shall keep a roll of the members, their ages, residences and occupations, with the date of their initiation in the Fourth Degree; members changing their residences must notify the Faithful Comptroller; he shall, upon member transferring to Council in another Assembly, issue transfer card, signed by the Faithful Navigator and attested by the Faithful Comptroller; he shall issue to each member not indebted to his Assembly for dues, a Fourth Degree traveling card, duly signed and attested as above, and which shall entitle a member upon presentation of same within the period specified on said card and upon further compliance with the rule requiring the surrender of the current Third Degree password, to admittance to any meeting of the Fourth Degree; such necessary official records and forms as will be furnished by the Supreme Secretary only to be used; he shall notify quarterly the Supreme Secretary of all suspensions, withdrawals, deaths, reinstatements and transfers to or from other Assemblies occurring during the period; he shall generally perform all duties incident to his office. The Faithful Friar shall be the Chaplain of the Assembly. The Faithful Inner and Outer Sentinels shall perform the duties of Inside and Outside Guards.

VOTED, By Supreme Assembly, July 30, 1926, that no Fourth Degree traveling card be issued unless the member produce his third degree traveling card showing payment of dues to date.

A member cannot transfer from one Assembly to another without

transferring from the Council of the former to the Council of the latter. (Ruling by S. M., 1921.) But see Sec. 16, Art. XI.

NOTE. See Section 6, Article XI, as to transfers.

A British subject transferring from a Council in Canada to a Council in the United States, if a Fourth Degree member, becomes a member automatically of the Assembly of the latter, provided a transfer card has been issued to him as directed by this Section. (Ruling by S. M.)

Section 3. The Faithful Comptroller and the Faithful Purser shall each furnish a bond in the sum of five hundred dollars for the faithful performance of the duties of his office. The obligee in such bond shall be "Knights of Columbus" and the same shall be filed with the Master of the District, who shall be the custodian thereof.

Provided, in lieu thereof, the Board of Directors may provide for a blanket bond covering the Faithful Comptrollers and Faithful Pursers of all Assemblies and Masters, in which event such blanket bond shall be filed with the Supreme Secretary.

VOTED. By Supreme Assembly, that expense of these bonds be borne by the respective Assemblies, amount to be named by the Assembly. (Adopted July 28, 1922.)

Section 4. The regular election of officers in Local and General Assemblies shall take place annually at the first regular business meeting of the Assembly held in June of each year. The officers then elected shall hold office for the term of one year and until their successors are elected and qualified. Such officers shall take office, with or without installation, at the first regular meeting of each assembly in July following their election. Such officers shall be installed not later than the first regular meeting in October of each year. Special elections to fill vacancies may be held on one week's notice. The provisions of the laws as to council elections shall apply as far as practicable. The Faithful Navigator shall, within ten days after the election, file report of the same, together with the names and addresses of all officers elected, with the Master of the District, and shall send a duplicate of such report to the Supreme Secretary.

NOTE. For additional reports by F. N., see Section 11, Article XI.

Section 5. The Master may declare any office in a local or general assembly vacant where the officer fails or refuses

to perform the duties of the office, and the vacancy shall be filled (after notice to the members) by election at the meeting next succeeding the creation of the vacancy.

Procedure, see Section 17, Article XI.

ARTICLE X

Exemplification

Section 1. The Master of the Fourth Degree shall have the full selection and control, with absolute power of removal and substitution, of a Degree Corps, and shall rehearse and train the members thereof, and shall supervise all the arrangements for the proper exemplification of the degree, and be held strictly responsible therefor. Before entering upon his duties the Master shall give a surety bond in the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) to "Knights of Columbus" for the faithful accounting and application of all moneys received by him. Said bond shall be filed with the Supreme Secretary; the cost thereof shall be paid out of the Fourth Degree Fund, Supreme Assembly. The Master shall be held personally responsible for the expenses of any exemplification, and must keep the same within the fees received by him from the applicants, and at all times within reasonable bounds. He must not in any way bind the Order or make any contracts in its name. He receives all fees amply in advance and should be ready to meet all obligations he incurs. He may include charges for storing and caring for and renewing outfits, and shall be allowed all necessary proper and legitimate expenses. He shall keep a permanent record of all exemplifications and all financial transactions in a book to be provided by the Supreme Secretary, which shall be transmitted to his successor with the other property and effects of the degree.

NOTE. This section has been construed by the Board of Directors to mean "Reasonable expenses necessary for the exemplification in accordance with the ceremonial, including the banquet for candidates following the exemplification; also the actual and reasonable expenses incurred by the Master of his office."

NOTE. See Section 9, Article VIII, requiring detailed reports from Master after each degree. See, also, Section 10, Article VIII, requiring semi-annual financial reports from Masters. See, also, ruling hereunder as to deposit of funds in bank by Master.

VOTED, By Supreme Assembly, that the Master has the power

under present laws to use the Fourth Degree Fund in his possession to defray his or a substitute's expenses in visiting Assemblies. (Adopted July 31, 1914.)

VOTED, That a Master has power to appoint a Secretary and such other assistants as he may need, the expense for same to be payable out of the Fourth Degree Fund in his hands. (Adopted July 28, 1916, by Supreme Assembly.)

VOTED, By Supreme Assembly, that funds held by Masters should be deposited in the name of the Master, with the words, "Master Fourth Degree" added. They should in all cases be held separate and distinct from personal deposits of the Master, and that certificates from banks covering these balances may be required at any time in connection with examination of financial reports of Masters. (Adopted January 3, 1920.)

Master has no power to levy an assessment on the membership in his district for any purpose, and an assessment of one dollar for the purchase of paraphernalia is void. (Ruling by S. M., 1921.)

Section 2. The Fourth Degree shall be exemplified not oftener than once a year, only after notice to and upon approval by the Vice-Supreme Master of the Province, upon October 12th (Columbus Day), or Washington's Birthday, or within the octave of said days. In jurisdictions outside the United States the Fourth Degree shall be exemplified only once a year, and then only on a National Holiday established in such jurisdiction. The Vice-Supreme Master shall immediately notify the Supreme Master and Supreme Secretary of all such approvals given by him. One hundred applicants shall authorize a Master to make all arrangements for the exemplification. In case more apply, preference must be given in the order in which applications were received. The Master may limit the number beyond one hundred. He shall select three or more members of his Local or General Assembly and they shall advise with him as a committee concerning all the details and arrangements, but he shall have the final decision on all matters relating to the exemplification. With the consent of the Vice-Supreme Master, a place outside the district may be selected. The Master shall notify all accepted candidates in due time prior to the initiation. With the consent of the Master exemplifying the degree and the consent of the Master or Vice-Supreme Master of the applicant's district, candidates may be initiated in a district other than their own (but not a foreign country), in which event applications and fees shall be

turned over to the Master of such district. (See Ruling under Sec. 10, Art. XI, par. F.)

VOTED, By Board of Directors, June 30, 1929, that where the District Assembly omits to appoint an Auditing Committee for the Master, the Vice-Supreme Master may appoint.

VOTED, That it is the sense of the Board that the Ceremonial Committee has power to grant dispensation permitting Masters to give degrees upon other days than those specified in the Fourth Degree Constitution, where good and sufficient cause is shown, and upon compliance with the other provisions of the Fourth Degree Laws. (Adopted January 16, 1911, by Board of Directors.)

VOTED, By Board of Directors, that in case of vacancy in the office of Master, the Vice-Supreme Master has authority to grant permission for initiation of candidates in other districts, and to exercise all the other powers of the office pending the filling of the vacancy. (Adopted April 6, 1914.)

A member of a Canadian Council who resides in Canada but who is a citizen of the United States, is entitled to receive the Fourth Degree in the United States. The latter is not a "foreign country" as to him under this section. (Ruling by S. M.)

The Ceremonial Committee has authority to permit two degrees in one district in the same year, provided sufficient reasons exist therefor. (Decision by Ceremonial Committee.)

The phrase "or within the octave of said days" found in Section 2, Article X, means the period of time commencing with Washington's Birthday and Columbus Day, and including the succeeding seven days. Consequently, Fourth Degrees can only be lawfully exemplified in the United States on any day of the eight-day period commencing on February 22 and ending on March 1, or February 29, as the case may be, and during the like period commencing October 12 and ending October 19. The octave does not include any period of time preceding either of these holidays. To give the degree on any other day, dispensation must be procured from the Ceremonial Committee. (Ruling by S. M.)

VOTED, That where dispensation is granted to any candidate to receive the degree by observation, it shall be the duty of the Master to procure and give to such candidate the obligation of the country to which he belongs. (Adopted July 28, 1916, by Supreme Assembly.)

VOTED, On matter of fixing a definite time limit for receiving applications, the Supreme Assembly is of the opinion that the matter is already within the power of the Master under Article X. (Adopted July 28, 1916, by Supreme Assembly.)

See, also, "Decisions by Ceremonial Committee" under Section 10, Article XI.

VOTED, In construing Section 2 of Article X, it is the sense of the Supreme Assembly that a citizen of a foreign country residing in a country other than his own may be initiated in the Fourth Degree in the latter country by observation, but a citizen of a foreign country, residing in his own country, is not entitled to initiation by observation in any other country. (Adopted August 21, 1930, by Supreme Assembly.)

Section 3. The regalia of the Fourth Degree shall con-

sist of the official dress, sword and baldric, and emblem of the Fourth Degree.

NOTE. Masters should apply to Supreme Secretary for printed copies of specifications for equipment, which consists of sword, baldric and emblem.

VOTED, That all orders from Masters for Fourth Degree supplies and paraphernalia be shipped C.O.D. by the official manufacturers, unless other arrangements have previously been made between the Master and the manufacturer. (Adopted June 18, 1937, by Board of Directors.)

VOTED, By Supreme Assembly, that it is the duty of all Masters to inspect, either personally or by competent committee, all Fourth Degree equipment before distribution, in order to determine whether same is in accordance with specifications; also, that a copy of this resolution be sent to all Masters and printed on copies of specifications to be sent to Masters. (Adopted January 3, 1920.)

VOTED, That in the opinion of the Board a District Deputy has no authority to permit the participation in a Third Degree of Fourth Degree members in regalia. (Adopted June 9, 1912, by Board of Directors.)

Section 4. A uniform drill corps, with sword and baldric, is permitted in Local and General Assemblies, under regulations to be prescribed by the Board of Directors. The use of the regalia of the Fourth Degree is prohibited except in Assemblies of that degree. The Master, however, may give special permission for the public use of regalia upon solemn or religious occasions, or occasions of great public interest. At all exemplifications of the degree all members and candidates (except clergymen) shall appear in the official dress, viz., full evening dress, or in the official uniform of the degree, if one be adopted. Members and candidates failing to comply with the above requirements shall be debarred from participating. The Master may, in his discretion, dispense with this requirement, only in individual cases, and for good reasons.

VOTED, That the Supreme Board of Directors hereby prescribe the following general regulations for uniform drill corps in local and general assemblies:

Such bodies shall be known as "Fourth Degree Color Corps of Assembly," and not otherwise. They may participate in exemplifications, and religious and public functions and parades, with the consent of the Master. The minimum membership for each Fourth Degree Color Corps shall be two platoons of twelve men each. No Fourth Degree Color Corps shall be organized until a plan shall be first submitted to the Master of the District and approved

or modified by him. The Master shall have supervision, control and direction over all Fourth Degree Color Corps organized in his district, and shall be held strictly accountable for such organization. The uniform shall consist of sword and baldric and such military or naval uniform as shall be appropriate to the country or section in which it is located. Provided, that complete specifications of the dress shall be submitted to the Supreme Master and his written approval obtained. (Adopted by Supreme Board of Directors, April 9-10, 1927.)

VOTED, That beyond the uniform heretofore adopted for the Fourth Degree, no other uniform is authorized by this Order, and further, that this Order discountenances the formation of any uniform rank within its members. The First Regiment of New York, however, will be allowed to use the uniform adopted by said regiment. (Adopted January 12, 1903, by Board of Directors.)

RESOLVED, That the uniform for day parade of the Fourth Degree consists of cutaway frock coat, silk hat, sword and baldric, and none other. (Sup. Assembly, July 30, 1926.)

PROVIDED, That in such jurisdiction where uniforms have heretofore been adopted and used, of other design, the same may continue until further order of this Board; and

PROVIDED, Further, that this regulation shall not affect the official dress (evening dress) of the Fourth Degree. (Adopted April 24, 1911, by Board of Directors.)

VOTED, By the Board of Directors, that at the exemplification of the Fourth Degree the dress of candidates be evening dress and none other. (Adopted April 8, 1913.)

VOTED, Master has discretionary authority to permit use of official dress with sword and baldric in lieu of Day Dress at religious and other functions. (B. of D., June 30, 1928.)

VOTED, The baldric for official Day Dress should be worn over the coat. (B. of D., Oct. 11, 1931.)

VOTED, By the Board of Directors, that at the exemplification of the Fourth Degree, the dress for members shall be evening dress, except that the Master, in his discretion, may permit members to appear in the day dress of the degree. (Adopted April 8, 1913.)

The Ceremonial Committee has authority to dispense with official dress of candidates at exemplifications in torrid countries like Panama, and to permit use of the full dress adapted to such country in lieu thereof. (Decision by Ceremonial Committee.)

VOTED, The matter of dispensation for military officers and privates attending degrees, in the opinion of the Supreme Assembly, is properly within the jurisdiction of the Ceremonial Committee of the Supreme Board of Directors. (Adopted July 28, 1916.)

It is not proper to use the sword and baldric with any other dress than the day dress of the Fourth Degree or evening dress. (Ruling by S. M.)

VOTED, By Supreme Assembly, that the dress for day religious and patriotic services be specified as cutaway frock coat, or conventional evening dress with baldric, or baldric and sword, at the option of the local Master of the Fourth Degree. (Adopted July 28, 1922.)

VOTED, That the Ceremonial Committee have authority to grant dispensations for use of the tuxedo coat in lieu of the full dress coat at exemplifications in special or extraordinary cases, provided the consent of the Supreme Master be first obtained. (Adopted April 24, 1938, by Board of Directors.)

VOTED, On recommendation of the Supreme Master, that the special dress or uniform for the Fourth Degree in the Republic of Cuba, as per sketch No. 1 filed, in lieu of the American full dress, be and the same is hereby approved. Specification for such dress shall be filed by the Master with the Supreme Secretary. (Adopted April 24, 1938, by Board of Directors.)

VOTED, That a Master of the Fourth Degree may permit the use of the sword and baldric with day dress for Fourth Degree members attending funerals of members of the Order and of the clergy. (Adopted June 20, 1937, by Board of Directors.)

VOTED, On recommendation of the Supreme Master, that the headdress of the Fourth Degree appearing in a body in full evening or day dress with sword and baldric, in public parades, at civic, patriotic and ecclesiastical functions, shall be the Navy type chapeau with the Fourth Degree emblem, or, at the option of the assembly, the silk hat, the latter being proper only at functions where sword is not worn; provided, however, Fourth Degree dress in the Republic of Cuba shall not be affected hereby. (Adopted by B. of D., June 24, 1939.)

VOTED, Upon recommendation of the Supreme Master, that the Supreme Secretary communicate to all Masters of the Fourth Degree, all assemblies of the Fourth Degree, all Vice-Supreme Masters, Supreme Officers and members of the Board instructions and rules of procedure for Fourth Degree Assemblies, Color Corps, Guards of Honor, Color Guards and other organized uniformed units of the Fourth Degree which are hereby approved, as follows:

"For your information and future guidance in reference to the public appearance of Assemblies in regalia, you are advised as follows:

"1. You have already been informed of the recent action of the Supreme Board of Directors in designating the Navy type Chapeau as the proper head-dress of the Fourth Degree when appearing in a body in full evening or day dress with sword and baldric, in public parades, and at civic, patriotic and ecclesiastical functions, reserving to any Assembly to continue the use of the silk hat at its option. It is hoped, however, that the Navy type head-dress will gradually come into general use. This type is the recognized standard when carrying side arms.

"2. The silk hat is eminently proper with full or day dress with social baldric, without side arms, at social, private or similar functions.

"3. When invited or permission granted to participate in uniform with sword and baldric at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, or at Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament or other church ceremony, unless otherwise directed by the 'Master of Ceremonies' (representative of the Bishop), observe the following procedure:

"(a) It is necessary prior to such participation to consult the Master of Ceremonies, and be governed by his wishes or directions in all matters, including the varying of these rules.

"(b) If requested by the Master of Ceremonies to 'man the aisle' for a procession, the men stand at 'Present,' with hats on until the procession has passed.

"(c) When entering the church, if they wear side arms, their hats remain on their heads until the men are at their seats, when hats may be removed in unison by order and swords taken off. If the swords are not taken off and the members remain standing and are deemed to be on duty, their hats are not removed.

"(d) At the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, if carrying side arms, the men on duty stand at 'Present,' with hats on, for the reading of communications from the Sovereign Pontiff, for the reading of the Gospel, and for the Elevation. At the actual Elevation during Mass they stand at 'Present,' facing the Altar, and remain so standing until the Host is consumed.

"(e) At the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, the members in full regalia, carrying side arms, stand at 'Present' with hats on until the conclusion of the Benediction.

"(f) If the members in full regalia are to receive Holy Communion in a body, hats and swords are removed and not replaced, and they participate in the Mass the same as other laymen with heads uncovered until the conclusion of the Mass.

"(g) If the members in full regalia assist in the procession on the Feast of Corpus Christi it is always with hats on.

"(h) If the Assembly designates members in uniform wearing side arms to act as a Guard of Honor at the bier of a bishop, priest or other ecclesiastical dignitary, hats remain on the heads of the men on guard. If Mass is said the men on duty face the altar at the Elevation, and 'Present Arms,' hats on.

"(i) The hats worn by members when appearing in day dress or full dress, but without side arms, are removed when they enter the church.

"(j) The term 'side arms' used herein means the Fourth Degree sword with baldric.

"4. The foregoing instructions are alike applicable to the Fourth Degree Color Corps, Guard of Honor, Color Guard and other organized uniformed units of the Fourth Degree now or hereafter existing by permission of the Supreme Board of Directors.

"5. In out-of-doors functions follow the usual and customary military regulations, which provide that when side arms are worn, the head covering shall not be removed.

"6. Consult the Supreme Secretary concerning specifications for the Navy type chapeau and prices."

(Adopted by B. of D., August 13, 1939.)

Section 5. The expense of sword and baldric, social baldric and emblem for all candidates initiated, including banquet for candidates, shall be paid by the Master, like other expenses, out of the initiation fee.

VOTED, By Board of Directors, April 5, 1925, that Masters furnish to all candidates an additional baldric known as a social baldric. On October 16, 1925, the Board adopted the specifications and sample.

ARTICLE XI

Miscellaneous

Section 1. All meetings of all Assemblies shall be held in the Fourth Degree—the passwords of the Third and Fourth Degrees being collected, provided, however, as to Fourth Degree password, if member presents traveling card, and the Master or Faithful Navigator is satisfied of the holder's identity, same may not be required. Vouching for members is positively prohibited. The only persons authorized to impart the Fourth Degree password to members are the Faithful Navigator, Faithful Comptroller, Master, Vice-Supreme Master, Supreme Master, and Supreme Secretary. The Board of Directors shall change the Fourth Degree password annually at or before its last quarterly meeting in each year, and the password shall be sent out by the Supreme Secretary to the members of the Supreme Assembly, to all Masters of the Fourth Degree and to all Faithful Navigators prior to January 1, and shall go into effect on that date.

VOTED, By Supreme Assembly, July 30, 1926, that Fourth Degree members attending Assembly meetings or exemplifications shall be required to produce traveling cards of both Third and Fourth Degrees.

Section 2. Applications and Communion blanks shall be furnished by the Supreme Secretary to the Master, for which there shall be no charge. The Master shall furnish same to the officers of Assemblies and Councils in his district.

VOTED, That the Supreme Secretary be instructed to furnish Fourth Degree applications and Communion certificates only to Masters. (Adopted by Supreme Assembly, July 29, 1910.)

Section 3. The official emblem of the Fourth Degree in any of its several forms shall be sold to and worn only by members of the Fourth Degree. Such members are forbidden to loan, give, or sell it to others under pain of expulsion. Members of the Order who are not members of the Fourth Degree are forbidden to wear it, under like penalty.

NOTE. The official emblem is distinct from the Fourth Degree jewel

VOTED, By the Board of Directors, that the latest design of Fourth Degree jewel submitted, the Papal tiara and keys, be adopted as the

official jewel for Supreme Master, Vice-Supreme Masters and Masters with the following distinction, that the ribbon from which the same is suspended, in the case of the Supreme Master shall be white, in the case of Vice-Supreme Master blue, and in the case of the Masters red. (Adopted January 5, 1914.)

VOTED, By the Board of Directors, that the matter of distribution of Fourth Degree jewels be referred to the Supreme Assembly of the Fourth Degree. (Adopted January 5, 1914.)

VOTED, By the Supreme Assembly, in the matter of distribution of Fourth Degree jewels, referred to the Supreme Assembly, by the Board of Directors, that said jewels be distributed to all members of the Supreme Assembly, and to all Masters and Past Masters of the Fourth Degree. All officers shall be entitled to retain the jewel upon retirement from office. The jewel may be worn by said officers at all exemplifications, Assembly meetings and public functions of the Fourth Degree. Past Masters shall be entitled to wear the jewel. No member of the Order other than those herein specified shall be entitled to wear said jewel. (Adopted July 31, 1914.)

VOTED, By Supreme Assembly, that the expense of jewels for members of the Supreme Assembly, and Masters taking office on and after July 1, 1914, shall be payable out of the Fourth Degree Fund Supreme Assembly. (Adopted July 31, 1914.)

VOTED, By Board of Directors, June 23, 1934, above resolution repealed; no jewels to be furnished masters hereafter appointed at expense of Supreme Assembly Fourth Degree Fund. On August 19, 1934, Board voted such masters may obtain jewel through Supreme Secretary at manufacturer's cost.

VOTED, That some form of jewel be authorized for Past Navigators, with the understanding that the jewels for past Faithful Navigators shall be provided at the expense of the assemblies, after approval of specifications by the Supreme Master and the Supreme Secretary. (Adopted October 22, 1938, by Board of Directors.)

COLORS OF THE ORDER. VOTED, That the Board of Directors affirms the following as a description of the colors of the Order, in use since the Order was founded, viz.: The Compass, Anchor and Sextant are symbolic of the emblem of the calling of the Great Navigator whose name we bear. The colors thereof are red, white and blue. The first color, red, applies to our First Degree; the second, white, to our Second Degree; the third, blue, to our Third Degree. The emblem of the Fourth Degree embraces all three of above-named colors. Our pins, charms and buttons carry identical colors. (Adopted April 8, 1913.)

WAR EMBLEM OF THE ORDER, adopted by Board of Directors September 30, 1918, viz.: Shield with cross in center; border of shield, blue; cross, white with blue border; letters, "K. of C.", white with blue border; balance of shield red.

FLAG OF THE ORDER, adopted by Board of Directors January 5, 1919, viz.: A new flag, similar in style to the former, except substitute the war emblem of the Order for the Maltese Cross and strike out the letters T. F. M. M. from the four corners.

Section 4. Suspension, withdrawal or expulsion of members in their Council shall work a like suspension,

withdrawal, or expulsion in their Assembly. Reinstatement in the Council shall be reinstatement in the Assembly, and readmission to a Council shall readmit to that Council's Assembly, providing no reason to the contrary exists in the Assembly. Assemblies may provide by by-laws for withdrawal, suspension or expulsion, also reinstatement and readmission. Procedure shall be as in the case of Councils, provided that members delinquent in payment of dues shall be restored upon payment of arrearages, but not exceeding in amount five dollars and a withdrawal card fee of fifty cents which shall be remitted to the Supreme Secretary forthwith and which shall be credited to the Fourth Degree Fund. No assessment by a General Assembly or Local Assembly shall be valid until approved by the Supreme Master, both as to purpose and amount.

An Assembly officer should vacate his office pending trial on charges unless the Assembly votes otherwise. (Ruling by S. Adv., 1921.)

Under Section 4, Article XI, Local and General Assemblies may provide by by-laws for suspension for non-payment of dues or assessment, and such suspension may take place from the Fourth Degree, notwithstanding the member may be in good standing in his Council. (Ruling by S. M.)

The withdrawal, suspension or expulsion of a member from the Fourth Degree, or from any Local or General Assembly thereof, does not legally affect his standing in the Subordinate Council of which he is a member. (Ruling by S. M.)

See, also, ruling as to readmission under Section 1, Article VIII.

VOTED. In opinion of Supreme Assembly, that upon transfer or readmission to a Council of a Fourth Degree member who has not been previously a member of any Assembly, he shall become a member of the Assembly of the Council upon certificate from the Supreme Secretary showing his membership in the Fourth Degree. (Adopted December 18, 1920.)

VOTED, That Supreme Secretary furnish to Assemblies blank forms of application for withdrawal card and readmission and reinstatement. (Adopted by Supreme Assembly July 29, 1922.)

Section 5. The Board of Directors and Supreme Knight shall have similar powers over Supreme, District, Local and General Assemblies, and the members and officers, as they have over Councils, their members and officers, as far as necessary.

Section 6. The transfer of a member from one Council to another also includes his transfer to the Assembly of the

latter, if he be a Fourth Degree member and in good standing in the Assembly of the former, which facts shall be evidenced by a transfer card issued as provided in Section 2, Article IX.

See ruling as to transfer from foreign Council, under Section 2, Article IX.

Section 7. Grand Knights of Councils shall read or cause to be read at Council meetings, all notices relative to the Fourth Degree sent them by the Supreme Officers or by the Supreme Master, Vice-Supreme Master or Master of the Fourth Degree.

The Supreme Board recommended to the Supreme Council adoption of above Section 7 as subdivision 8 of Section 136, Chapter XV of the Laws Governing Subordinate Councils. (B. of D., October 22, 1939.)

Section 8. Members of the Fourth Degree in good standing are privileged to attend meetings of any Assembly, but without voice or vote except in their own.

Section 9. The order of business for Local and General Assembly meetings shall be as provided in the ceremonial for the Assembly meetings. All Assembly meetings shall be opened and closed according to such ceremonial.

VOTED, That the Supreme Assembly considers it mandatory upon all Local and General Assemblies to exemplify at each meeting the Assembly ceremonial. (Adopted July 21, 1914.)

VOTED, By Supreme Assembly, that it is within the power of an Assembly, by vote, to change the order of business at any particular meeting. (Adopted July 31, 1914.)

Section 10. Dispensation (other than for the public use of regalia) shall only be granted in proper cases, for good and sufficient cause, and then only by the Supreme Master of the Fourth Degree, upon written application of the Master, and that the Supreme Master attend the regular quarterly meetings of the Supreme Board, and special meetings if so directed by the Supreme Knight, and make full report of all dispensations granted or refused during the preceding quarter, and all other Fourth Degree matters requiring action by the Board.

DECISIONS BY CEREMONIAL COMMITTEE

(A) That it has authority to grant dispensations from the two-year probationary period, where the applicant lacks but a short time of said period, provided good reasons are shown therefor.

(B) That it may grant dispensation to give the degree by COMMUNICATION in an individual case where the circumstances are extraordinary.

(C) That a citizen of Canada, resident in the United States, cannot receive the Fourth Degree by INITIATION in the United States.

(D) That a citizen of the United States, resident in Canada, cannot receive the Fourth Degree by INITIATION in Canada.

(E) That a British subject, resident in the United States, and not a citizen of Canada, cannot receive the Fourth Degree by INITIATION in Canada or the United States.

(F) That the Committee has authority to permit a foreign citizen otherwise qualified to receive the degree by OBSERVATION where weighty or extraordinary reasons exist therefor, but a citizen of a foreign country, residing in his own country, is not entitled to initiation by observation in any other country. (Adopted by Supreme Assembly, Aug. 21, 1930.)

(G) That the Committee has authority to permit more than twenty applicants for the Fourth Degree from a Council where no Assembly exists, if special reasons exist therefor.

(H) That it may permit an exemplification with less than one hundred candidates, provided it be stipulated that neither the Order nor the general Fourth Degree fund be held liable for any deficiency in receipts over expenses.

(I) That the Master has no power to override the action of the Assembly in electing or rejecting an applicant, and that the Ceremonial Committee has no power to grant a dispensation to an applicant permitting him to receive the Fourth Degree where, on lawful ballot taken by the Assembly, he has been rejected.

(J) That the Committee may grant permission for a joint exemplification for two districts in one of said districts.

(K) That it would decline to permit a District Assembly meeting to be held outside the District, without express authority from the Board of Directors.

(L) That one who paid the \$10 fee under the former law is not entitled to initiation under the present \$25 fee without paying the difference.

(M) That the Committee cannot delegate to the Master its discretion or authority to pass upon applications for dispensations no matter how great the exigency may be. The case of an applicant for Fourth Degree honors who does not come strictly within all the provisions of the law in reference to qualifications and eligibility must be presented to the Ceremonial Committee by the Master with statement of facts and reasons and its favorable judgment on the case first obtained before the Master can lawfully initiate such applicant. The Committee is the sole judge of the sufficiency of the reasons.

(N) That it has power to permit the postponement of a District Assembly meeting to a day other than specified in the laws, for a good reason.

(O) That the Committee declines to grant requests for dispensation to receive the Fourth Degree where the applicant is under 21 years of age, regardless of the reasons advanced.

(P) That the Committee declines to grant dispensations for the organization of an Assembly with less than fifteen members.

(Q) That any Ordinary of a diocese, Bishop or Archbishop of the Roman Catholic Church, whether a member of the Order, or not, has the right to be present at any exemplification of the Fourth Degree at the invitation of the Master, or otherwise, and no previous permission by the Ceremonial Committee or other authority in the Order is necessary.

(R) That the Committee has no power to grant dispensation to a Master to reduce the initiation fee.

(S) Whether the case is a "proper case" under this Section in which a dispensation can be granted, is to be determined only by the Ceremonial Committee or the Board of Directors, to which it is amenable.

(T) Even though the Fourth Degree be exemplified on any of the authorized days specified in Section 2, Article X, it is incumbent on the Master to give previous notice to the Vice-Supreme Master and obtain his approval.

(U) Under Section 1, Article IX, where there is no Past Faithful Navigator of the Assembly, or such officer by reason of absence or other disability cannot serve, the Faithful Admiral should be chosen from the general membership of the Assembly.

(V) The Vice-Supreme Master has no authority to permit Masters to exemplify the degree on a day or days other than Washington's Birthday or Columbus Day or the octave thereof, or outside the United States, on a national holiday. If it is desired to exemplify the degree on some other day, the Master must first obtain dispensation from the Ceremonial Committee.

(W) Concerning citizenship, the Ceremonial Committee will grant dispensation to a clergyman applying for Fourth Degree who has only first papers, on the assumption that he will receive final papers, and because the two-year probation has been abolished in the case of clergymen. (Approved by Board of Directors, October 3, 1915.)

(X) The Ceremonial Committee may grant dispensation to a Third Degree member to receive the Fourth Degree, regardless of the two-year limitation, provided it appears to the Committee he has performed eminent services in behalf of the Church, the country or humanity. (Approved by Board of Directors, October 3, 1915.)

See, also, additional decisions by Ceremonial Committee and rulings, under Section 1, Article VIII, Section 2, Article X, and Section 4, Article X.

Section 11. The Faithful Navigator of each Local and General Assembly shall make annual reports on the 30th day of June each year to the Master, of all the meetings.

and doings of his Assembly, and of the works undertaken or contemplated by it; also the number of members, and if any have been dropped, the reasons therefor; also such suggestions or recommendations as may seem to him proper or pertinent, on blanks to be furnished by the Supreme Secretary, and the Master shall make a digest of all such reports and send same to the Vice-Supreme Master before July 15 each year.

Report of elections by F. N. See Section 4, Article IX.

Section 12. Masters of the Fourth Degree shall continue in office as at present until their successors are appointed as herein provided.

Section 13. This Constitution shall go into effect on July 1, 1910.

Section 14. All Fourth Degree Assemblies existing prior to the adoption of these laws are hereby dissolved, and it shall be unlawful for any body of Fourth Degree members to organize or continue as a Fourth Degree Association or Assembly, except in the manner hereinbefore provided. Violations of any of the provisions of the Fourth Degree Constitution and laws shall be punished by fine, suspension or expulsion from the Fourth Degree, in the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Section 15. By-Laws of Local, General and District Assemblies shall not become operative until approved by the Supreme Master.

Section 16. Pending the formation of an Assembly, any member of the Fourth Degree unaffiliated with an Assembly, shall be attached to some Assembly in the District by order of the Master, or, if more convenient, to a nearby Assembly in an adjoining district, with the consent of the Master of such adjoining district, to which he shall pay dues and in which he shall have all the rights of membership, until the formation of an Assembly in his own Council.

VOTED, A member of the Fourth Degree residing in a country wherein the Fourth Degree is not established, on application to the Supreme Secretary, may be attached to some assembly in another country to which he shall pay dues and in which he shall enjoy all

the rights of membership until the Degree is established in his own country. (B. of D. Jan. 10, 1932.)

Section 17. The Master may suspend or remove from office any officer of a Local or General Assembly for neglect of duty, or for violation of the Fourth Degree laws and rules, or for conduct unbecoming a Knight of Columbus, on written complaint made to him and reasonable notice to the offending officer. The Master shall appoint a committee of one or more to hear and report the evidence. The Master shall make the finding and pronounce judgment, but the same shall not be effective until approved or modified by the Vice-Supreme Master.

Any member of the Fourth degree guilty of conduct unbecoming a Knight of Columbus, or of any offense under the laws and rules for Subordinate Councils, or of the Fourth Degree, shall be expelled from the Fourth Degree under procedure similar to the foregoing. Appeal may be taken by the aggrieved officer or member within thirty days after judgment, to the Supreme Master, whose decision shall be final.

In all matters not expressly covered by the Constitution and Laws governing the Fourth Degree, the procedure shall be the same as that provided by the Constitution and Laws of the Knights of Columbus with regard to the First, Second and Third Degrees. (S. A., August 21, 1930.)

Corrected and adopted January 11, 1910.

In effect July 1, 1910.

With amendments to October 17, 1943.

TIMOTHY P. GALVIN, *Supreme Master.*

Attest:

FRANCIS P. MATTHEWS, *Supreme Knight.*

JOSEPH F. LAMB, *Supreme Secretary.*



ABBREVIATIONS

S. M., Supreme Master; V. S. M., Vice-Supreme Master; M. F. D., Master Fourth Degree; S. K., Supreme Knight; S. S., Supreme Secretary; S. Adv., Supreme Advocate; S. T., Supreme Treasurer; S. A., Supreme Assembly; P. A., Provincial Assembly; D. A., District Assembly; G. A., General Assembly; L. A., Local Assembly; F. N., Faithful Navigator; F. C., Faithful Captain; F. Comp., Faithful Comptroller; F. A., Faithful Admiral; F. P., Faithful Pilot; F. Pur., Faithful Purser; F. S., Faithful Scribe; F. I. S., Faithful Inner Sentinel; F. O. S., Faithful Outer Sentinel; F. F., Faithful Friar; G. K., Grand Knight; B. of D., Board of Directors; Cer. Com., Ceremonial Committee; Memb. Com., Membership Committee; F. D., Fourth Degree; P. W., Password.

A

ADJACENT TOWNS

(See Towns)

ADMIRAL

(See Faithful Admiral)

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(See Master's Advisory Committee)

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